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3338 '99 SEP 17 A10:02

September 15, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

**RE: Docket Numbers 98N-1230: 96P-0418: 97P-0197**

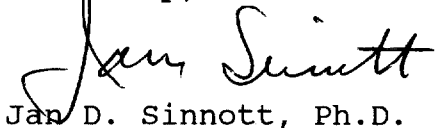
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regard to the request for comments on reducing egg borne diseases. The Food Safety and Inspection Service has stated that it recognizes that public health concerns are raised by highly stressful forced molting practices; for example, extended starvation and water deprivation lead to increased shedding of Salmonella enteritidis (Se).

The FDA must do more than put bacteria warning lables on egg cartons and regulate refrigeration temperatures. **The FDA should prevent the practice of forced molting because forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by harming the starving hens' immune systems.** FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that injure human health. The FDA must ban the forced molting of laying hens to increase egg production because forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs. Apparently cruelty and contamination are linked.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. **The petition should be granted without delay.**

Sincerely,



Jan D. Sinnott, Ph.D.

98N 1230

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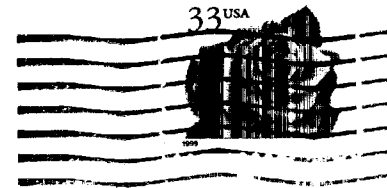
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C627

See Docket Number/Item Code: 97P-0197/C628  
96P-0418/C627



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Docket's Management Branch (HFA-305)

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